Development of Prayagraj in Allahabad

†605. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prayagraj (Thirthraj) in Allahabad is not only a religious and cultural centre for followers of Hindu religion but this land has bestowed a number of great scholars/ statesmen to the country;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to take some adequate measures for the development of this city keeping in view of the tourists; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that lakhs of foreigner tourists visit this place during the Maghshirh month?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Considering the importance of Allahabad from the tourism point of view and based on the request received from the State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, the Central Department of Tourism sanctioned the following schemes to create tourist facilities in the city:—

Name of the Scheme	Year of Sanction	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
Upgradation cum expansion of existing tourist bungalow at Allahabad.	1998-99	9.49
Construction of water sports complex at Allahabad.	1999-2000	49.51

(c) Yes, Sir.

Indian sites in UNESCO's world heritage list

606. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 29th January, 2002 captioned "Government's fauxpas on world heritage list cost India dearly";

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.